(a) whether the Government propose to grant the status of a court of records to the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission and empower it to prosecute parties violating its orders; and

(b) if so, when a decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS: (SHRI K. VIJAYA BHASKARA REDDY) (a) and (b). The Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission has recently asked the Government to declare it as a Court of Record by a suitable amendment in the MRTP Act, 1969. The Government is considering giving powers of contempt to the MRTP Commission.

Military Cantonments in Hamirpur and Una Districts (H.P.)

*232. PROF. PREM DHUMAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up Military Cantonments in Hamirpur and Una Districts of Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the time by which the work is likely to start; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c). An offer received from the Himachal Pradesh Government to provide land in Hamirpur and Una Distracts of that State, for setting up of Military Stations, is at a very preliminary stage of examination.

[*Translation*]

Widening of National Highway No. 8

*233. SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA:
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to widen the National Highway No.8 into four lanes;

(b) if so, the amount sanctioned for the purpose, and

(c) the time by which the work is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). Out of the total 1428 km length of National Highway No. 8 66.8 kms are already 4-lane. In addition, 4–laning of another 125.28 kms has been sanctioned since 1987 at an estimated cost of Rs. 39.30 crores. The sanctioned works are in varying stages of progress.

[*English*]

Bonus to Port and Dock Workers

*234. SHRI M. V.V. S. MURTHY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have paid bonus to the port and dock workers for 1990-91;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be paid to these workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). Government had authorised payment of 8.33% as an advance against Productivity Linked Bonus for the year 1990-91 to port and dock workers on 29.8.1991. Government have issued orders on 2.12.1991 for payment of Productivity Linked Bonus @12.60% of wage/salary for the year 1990-91 to the eligible port and dock workers (after adjusting the advance) expeditiously.